STATE OF NEW YORK LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY BUFFALO, NY, JANUARY 1-31, 2022

Honoring National Blood Donor Month January 2022: LEG JAN 14 '22 PM 5:23

WHEREAS, *National Blood Donor Month* has been celebrated each January for nearly 50 years and coincides with one of the most difficult times to maintain a sufficient blood supply for patients; and

WHEREAS, during this critical time of year, the Red Cross depends on donors to continue to supply these resources in order to make sure that blood products are available at about 2,500 hospitals nationwide; and

WHEREAS, blood shortages have become a national epidemic with communities throughout the U.S. experiencing these shortages more frequently and for prolonged periods of time, due to disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, one blood donation has the potential to help save lives of up to three patients, underscoring the importance of constantly replenishing our blood supply through donations and community awareness; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the importance of blood donation to the health and well-being of patients in hospitals and medical centers across our state; and

WHEREAS, the difference in potentially saving a life by making blood donation a habit this January and committing to donating blood each year, will significantly improve Erie County's blood bank, especially as the coronavirus pandemic continues to present significant challenges to healthcare delivery system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body hereby proclaims January 2022 as *National Blood Donor Month* and encourage all residents to understand the importance of supporting local blood drives and blood donation efforts this month and throughout the new year.

Hon. Lisa M. Chimera
Erie County Legislator, 3rd District

Robert M. Graber
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature